UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN RE: VITAMINS ANTIPRUST CLASS ACTIONS

Misc. No. 99-197 (TFH) MDL No. 1285

This document relates to :

Blue Seal Feeds, Inc., et al. v. Akzo Nobel Inc., et al., 99-CV-2683 (TFH)

Cactus Operating Limited, et al. v.: Akzo Nobel Inc., et al., : 99-CV-2684 (TFH)

Marshall Durbin Farms, Inc., et al.: v. Akzo Nobel Inc., et al., : 99-CV-2785 (TFH) :

Southern States Cooperative, Inc., : et al. v. Akzo Nobel Inc., et al., : 99-CV-2685 (TFH)

Tyson Foods, Inc., et al., v. Akzo: Nobel Inc., et al., : 99-CV-2681 (TFH)

FILED

APR 1 1 2000

NANCYMAYER-WHITTINGTON, CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT

STIPULATION CONCERNING THE TIME OF AKZO NOBEL N.V. TO RESPOND TO THE COMPLAINTS IN THE CAPTIONED ACTIONS

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between counsel for plaintiffs in the captioned actions and counsel for defendant Akzo Nobel N.V., that the time for defendant Akzo Nobel N.V. to move, answer or otherwise respond to the complaints in the captioned actions, shall be as follows:

- 1. If Akzo Nobel N.V. wishes to move to dismiss the complaints in the captioned actions on the grounds that service of process was improper under the Hague Convention or for lack of "national contacts", it must serve its motion on these bases on or before April 7, 2000. The time for Akzo Nobel N.V. to move to dismiss on any other grounds is extended as set forth below.
- 2. Except as set forth in paragraph 3, the time for Akzo Nobel N.V. to move to dismiss on any basis other than those identified in paragraph 1, answer or otherwise respond to the complaints in the captioned actions is extended to and including the day twenty (20) days after the day the Court's decision on the personal jurisdiction issues argued before the Court on March 16, 2000, is entered in the Civil Docket for the captioned matter, MDL No. 1285.
- 3. If the Court decides that personal jurisdiction should be determined on the basis of a foreign defendant's contacts with the transferor forum, then the time for Akzo Nobel N.V. to move to dismiss on any basis (other than improper service under the Hague Convention), answer or otherwise respond to the complaints in the captioned actions is extended to and including the day thirty (30) days after the day the Court's decision referred to above is entered in the Civil Docket for the captioned matter, MDL No. 1285.

The execution of this Stipulation on behalf of Akzo Nobel N.V. shall be without prejudice to any defenses it may have, including, without limitation, lack of personal jurisdiction, improper venue, and insufficiency of service of process.

Dated: Washington, D.C. March ___, 2000

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Dated: New York March 1, 2000

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Attorneys for Defendant Akzo Nobel N.V. in the captioned actions

SO ORDERED:

THOMAS F. HOGAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Date: